CLAIMS

1. A composition for the inhibition or prevention of a bone mineral density reduction, comprising isoxanthohumol as an active ingredient.

2. A composition for the inhibition or prevention of a bone mineral density reduction, comprising an isoxanthohumol-containing isomerized hop extract as an active ingredient.

3. The composition according to claim 2, wherein said isomerized hop extract has been produced by isomerizing a xanthohumol-containing hop extract obtained by extraction with an ethanol solvent.

4. The composition according to claim 3, wherein said isomerization is carried out by heating the hop extract in alkaline water under reflux.

5. The composition according to any one of claims 1 to 4, which is a pharmaceutical composition.

6. The composition according to any one of claims 1 to 5, for the prevention, treatment or amelioration of osteoporosis.

7. Food and drink for the inhibition or prevention of a bone mineral density reduction, comprising isoxanthohumol as an active ingredient.

8. Food and drink for the inhibition or prevention of a bone mineral density reduction, comprising an isoxanthohumol-containing isomerized hop extract as an active ingredient.

9. The food and drink according to claim 8, wherein said isomerized hop extract has been produced by isomerizing a xanthohumol-containing hop extract obtained by extraction with an

ethanol solvent.

10. The food and drink according to claim 9, wherein said isomerization is carried out by heating the hop extract in alkaline water under reflux.

11. The food and drink according to any one of claims 7 to 10, which is a health food, a functional food, a food for specified health use, or a food for sick persons.

12. The food and drink according to any one of claims 7 to 11, for the prevention, treatment or amelioration of osteoporosis.

13. The food and drink according to any one of claims 7 to 12, which is in the form of a beverage.

14. The food and drink according to claim 13, which is a non-hop beverage.

15. The food and drink according to claim 14, which is a tea beverage.

16. The food and drink according to claim 14, which is a milk beverage.

17. The food and drink according to any one of claims 7 to 12, which is yoghurt.

18. The food and drink according to any one of claims 7 to 17, comprising isoxanthohumol in such an amount that the intake of isoxanthohumol per day per adult is 0.003 to 0.5 mg/kg-weight.

19. The food and drink according to any one of claims 7 to 17, comprising isoxanthohumol in such an amount that the intake of isoxanthohumol per time is 0.2 to 30 mg.

20. Non-grain-hop fermentation-type food and drink, comprising as an active ingredient isoxanthohumol in such an amount that the intake of isoxanthohumol per day per adult is 0.003 to 0.5 mg/kg-weight.

21. Non-grain-hop fermentation-type food and drink, comprising as an active ingredient isoxanthohumol in such an amount that the intake of isoxanthohumol per time is 0.2 to 30 mg.

22. Non-grain-hop fermentation-type food and drink, comprising as an active ingredient an isomerized hop extract containing isoxanthohumol in such an amount that the intake of isoxanthohumol per day per adult is 0.003 to 0.5 mg/kg-weight.

23. Non-grain-hop fermentation-type food and drink, comprising as an active ingredient an isomerized hop extract containing isoxanthohumol in such an amount that the intake of isoxanthohumol per time is 0.2 to 30 mg.

24. The non-grain-hop fermentation-type food and drink according to any one of claims 20 to 23, which is a tea beverage.

25. The non-grain-hop fermentation-type food and drink according to any one of claims 20 to 23, which is a milk beverage.

26. The non-grain-hop fermentation-type food and drink according to any one of claims 20 to 23, which is yoghurt.

27. A method for the inhibition or prevention of a bone mineral density reduction of a mammal, comprising the step of administering an effective amount of the active ingredient according to any one of claims 1 to 4 to a mammal, or allowing a mammal to take an effective amount of the active ingredient according to any one of claims 1 to 4.

28. A method for the prevention, treatment, or amelioration of osteoporosis, comprising the step of administering an effective amount of

the active ingredient according to any one of claims 1 to 4 to a mammal, or allowing a mammal to take an effective amount of the active ingredient according to any one of claims 1 to 4.

29. Use of an active ingredient as defined in any one of claims 1 to 4, for the manufacture of a composition for the inhibition or prevention of a bone mineral density reduction.

30. Use of an active ingredient as defined in any one of claims 1 to 4, for the manufacture of a composition for the prevention, treatment, or amelioration of osteoporosis.